



PETROS



The Newsletter of the Kearsarge
Community Presbyterian Church

MISSION STUDY

Dear Beloved Community,

Greetings to you as we begin Mud Season in Northern New England. Times of transition like this can be exciting (as possibilities and new life emerge) as well as nerve-wracking (as potholes and muddy bogs impinge travel).

Likewise, this congregation is in a time of transition, a time for discerning the way forward in following Jesus. Understandably, one might feel excitement and/or anxiety about the transition into a new season in the life of Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church.

This month of March,
the KCPC Session will be appointing a
MISSION STUDY TEAM.

The members of the Mission Study Team will be offering an intensive service: meeting weekly, rooting themselves in prayer, asking themselves "Whose voice is not being heard?" and will be challenged with finding ways to enable participation of 100% of congregants in small group and congregational conversations.

If you feel called to serve on the KCPC Mission Study Team for the next several months, please contact me and/or a member of Session.

I look forward to the small group and congregational conversations, to the Scripture sharings, and to the deepening of relationships in Christ. Though the way forward may seem muddy and arduous, the work and the patience will be worthwhile. The Word of GOD is sweeter than honey--and, yes, even sweeter than local maple syrup.

Christ's peace and traveling mercies,

Kurt



MARCH 2022

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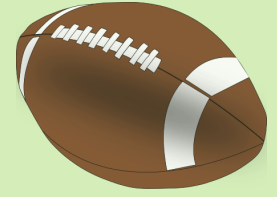
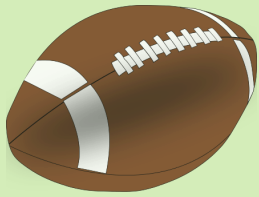
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KCPC Mission: Feeding our Neighbors ***TOUCHDOWN for the Souper Bowl Collection!***

Thank you so very much, for your generosity in donating food items for the Souper Bowl collection to support our local food pantries. We collected over 350 items for the food pantries in New London, Wilmot and Danbury, which is outstanding. It is wonderful to see so many families involved in this mission effort and to see the broad-based support for mission in our church.

While we collected over 350 food items, that number pales compared to the over 9,000 people in Merrimack County who are food insecure. So next week and every week, we will have the food pantry cart out in the Narthex to support our local pantries. Please consider bringing one or two items to donate. Thanks again for your generosity.

To highlight items that are always needed:

canned meats incl. Spam, chicken, or tuna;

canned vegetables;

hearty canned soups;

boxed mashed potatoes;

Skillet Meals;

Rice-A-Roni;

medium boxes of cereal;

canned vegetable drinks;

juice drinks (including 2 qt bottles);

cooking oil;

cake mixes;

pasta sauces;

beans;

Chef Boyardee cans;

small bags of rice;

more canned vegetables;

jelly;

peanut butter;

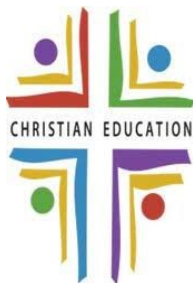
boxed UHT milk;

tea bags;

spices;

small ground coffee.

Small or medium sizes only. Importantly, please check the “**Best By**” date on your donations. The food pantries must follow local and NH Food Bank regulations so they cannot use food past either the “Best By” or expiration dates.



Roberta Hollinger
kcpcyouth@tds.net

First, some gratitude. Thank you to the parents who have taken on Sunday School, the Becks for running Youth Group, and all the Small Group peeps who have rallied while I've been away. You are all appreciated so much!

And now - how do I do Lent with my kids?

Our age range in Sunday School goes from Nursery School to seventh graders. I always try to figure out how to discuss and bring Lent into their lives in authentic ways, appropriate to their ages, as well as to their heads and hearts, which can give me pause.

You don't have to Google far to find all sorts of suggestions of how to talk to your kids about Lent. You know, talking to kids about preparing for the birth of Jesus during advent can be a whole lot easier than talking to them about preparing for Holy Week and Easter through Lent.

So, instead of talk, let's do. Here's some suggestions for family activities for Lent. My hope is in doing even just some of them, this will generate good conversations within families about the Lenten season and all that surrounds it.

Do Art Lenten Activities for Families - If your family is creative, you may find a daily/[nightly](#) art project rewarding. The projects should be Lent oriented. This family activity is especially good for younger children. You can choose a Bible verse and then allow each family member to create some form of art to illustrate the message of the Bible verse.

Try 40 Days of Giving - Your family can sit down on Shrove Tuesday and decide what the giving will be for each day of the Lenten season. This can be giving to each other, to specific groups, giving to the church and/or community at large. These acts of giving should require personal time and energy of each family member.

Make Pretzels - You may not be aware that the pretzel is a Lenten food. Early Christians would pray by crossing their arms over their chest with their hands to their shoulders. As part of their fasting, they made bread with only flour, salt, and water.

Pray for Others - This is a challenging Lenten family activity, but provides a valuable lesson in loving others. Challenge your family to say a silent prayer for each person they meet or pass during the day. At the end of the day, they may be surprised how wonderful they feel.

Make No Negative Statements - The family challenge is to spend the day avoiding saying anything negative. Each time they catch themselves falling into a negative response, they will stop and find something positive to say instead.

Have a Day of Thankfulness - Each family member will spend the day reflecting on the things they are thankful for. They will choose one or more to share with the family over the evening meal.

Make a Promise for Change - Have each family member write down a promise of change for some personal attribute they wish to change. They can share or keep it private. At the end of Lent, have each family member revisit their promise to themselves and report if they were able to keep their promise.

*Thank
You*

Thank you from the Staff of KCPC ~

For your generosity of giving during Christmastime, for the staff gifts. We are so blessed and honored to have the opportunity to be of service to such an amazing congregation and we look forward to another year together.

With sincere thanks~

Maria, Roberta, Fran, Jason and Lorraine





~ Reflections ~

March 2022

*“For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.”*


– Ecclesiastes – 3:1



I have, in my collection of Hummel figurines, a young boy, maybe 9 or 10 years old. His hands are in his pockets, a smudge on his backside and the tail-end of a scarf flapping in the wind. This figurine is named “March Winds.” If I hold it long enough, I think, I can almost feel the wind as it flips the scarf away from the boy’s face.




As our winter, with all its concerns begins to ‘wear us down,’ we wonder if spring and milder temperatures will ever come! Just as my little figurine seems to be searching, or looking, for something or someone, I too seem to be searching for change as I look for those signs of spring and all that the new season brings.



Watching the birds returning to our feeder, I find my faith uplifted, hope in the days ahead and joy in what is to come. Indeed, there is a season for everything under heaven! I just need to have faith that our Lord will be there to help me trust in Him and be patient while looking for the new seasons! Are you looking too?


Hugs, Elaine

 *“See everything, overlook a great deal, correct a little.” – Pope John XXIII*

  *“Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length.” – Robert Frost*

   *“Who called in your foot ‘falling asleep,’ and not ‘coma toes?’” – Readers Digest*

  *“Happy Birthday – you don’t look 60, but I remember when you did!” – Readers Digest*

 *“Be joyful because it is humanly possible!” – Wendell Berry.*





MARCH 2022

Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ash Wednesday 10:00 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir Practice	3 9:00 Men's Bible Study	4 World Day of Prayer	5
6 10:00 Worship 1st Sunday of Lent	7 11:30 Small Groups	8	9 10:00 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir Practice	10 9:00 Men's Bible Study	11	12
13 10:00 Worship <i>Petros Deadline</i> Daylight Savings Time Begins 2nd Sunday of Lent	14 11:30 Small Groups	15	16 10:00 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir Practice	17 9:00 Men's Bible Study  St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20 10:00 Worship 3rd Sunday of Lent 	21 11:30 Small Groups	22	23 10:00 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir Practice Pastor Kurt is away from KCPC until March 29th	24 9:00 Men's Bible Study	25	26
27 10:00 Worship 4th Sunday of Lent	28 11:30 Small Groups	29 Pastor Kurt Returns	30 10:00 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir Practice	31 9:00 Men's Bible Study		



KCPC Office Hours

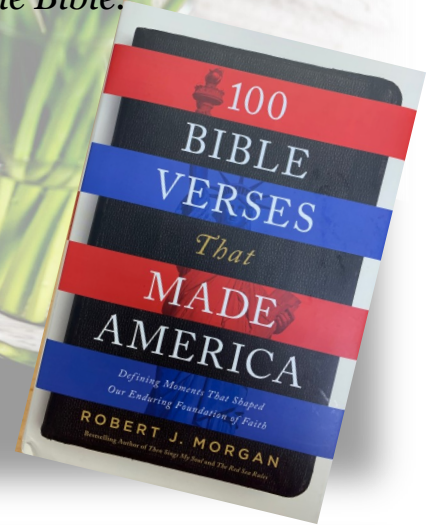
Maria is in the office every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. It is always best to call (526-4800) prior to stopping by the church office during the week or email Maria at officem@tds.net. A face mask is required when visiting the office for all vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

The Library Corner

A new book has been added to the library this month, titled "100 Bible Verses That Made America" by Robert J. Morgan. Rev. Morgan is a teaching pastor in Tennessee. His book reminds us that God was present in the critical events that made America. For if one knows the history of America, then one must know the Bible.

We are reminded that not every founding father was a Christian, however, each was knowledgeable about the Bible.

Did you know that when George Washington was sworn into office as our very first President, he did not place his hand on the Declaration of Independence, nor the Constitution, but rather he swore on the Bible and even kissed it! He felt that is was such an important moment in the birth of our nation. Enjoy! ~ Karen Simms



Let's Celebrate March Birthdays!

3/4	Bruce Soper	3/15	Todd Lauster
3/5	Melissa Smart	3/18	Clifton Cleaveland
3/6	David Rhodes	3/18	Andrew Csontos
3/8	Dennis Kohn	3/19	Naomi Cleaveland
3/12	Bud Dick	3/23	Jane Barban
3/13	Bobby Lauster		





PRESBYTERY OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

*Partners for Missions in Christ
Common Prayer List*

Prayers this month are for:

March 6th

Eliot Presbyterian Church
Lowell, MA
Rev. Heather Prince Doss

March 13th

Kenyan Community Ushindi Presbyterian Church
Lowell, MA
Rev. Joseph Kimatu

March 20th

First Presbyterian Church (Old South)
Newburyport, MA
Revs. Scott DeBlock and Tim Dolan, Transitional Pastors

March 27th

Fairbanks Union Church
Farmington, ME
In Pastoral Transition



KCPC Weekly Emails

For the foreseeable future, KCPC will continue to utilize MailChimp to send a weekly email to our members and friends. It will provide timely news, worship announcements, and other in-person meeting specifics.

If you are not on our email list, you can sign-up on the homepage of our website (www.kcpcnlh.com, scroll down until you see "Want to Receive our Weekly Email?" about half way on the left side), call the church office at 603-526-4800 or email Maria at officem@tds.net.

If you have signed up and don't receive our weekly email (normally sent on Friday afternoons), check your junk folder and move it to your inbox. This will assist your email program to "learn" that MailChimp emails from KCPC are worth reading! Gmail users should check their "Promotions" Tab at the top of the Gmail web page. If you don't use email, and would like a hard copy sent, we will arrange to do so. Please contact the church office.



A Free Piano!

Have you always wanted a piano? If so, now is the time! This beautiful upright piano is free...you just have to have it moved to your home.

It's a gently used Yamaha piano, with walnut wood finish, that needs a loving home.

If you are interested please contact Maria at the KCPC office by calling 603-526-4800 or by email at: officem@tds.net.

Moving arrangements and the cost of moving the piano are your responsibility.

KCPC Guidelines for Worship and In-Person Gatherings
can be found at www.kcpcnlh.com/re-opening-at-kcpc.html

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Pam Cooper	'22	380-1070
Jeff Hollinger	'22	526-2591
Karen McGrew	'22	763-9406
Paula Schoonmaker	'22	877-0046
Bruce Herd	'23	863-6983
Paul Seyfried	'23	763-9232
Ruth Storey	'23	252-0238
Nancy Walters	'23	863-1968
Jane Barban	'24	731-6252
Gary Rothe	'24	723-5841
Paul Sahler	'24	927-4168
John Walters	'24	863-1968

Deacons

Barbara Cooper	'22	763-9286
Anne Holmes	'22	938-2696
Kathi Kelly	'22	454-4404
Joanne Miller	'22	526-2377
Susan Bradford	'23	526-6465
Laurie Bride	'23	763-1410
Jerry Cooper	'23	763-9286
Nancy Marsh	'23	526-4391
Barry Bradford	'24	526-6465
Tom Cleaveland	'24	763-4210
Rick Marsh	'24	526-4391
Jan Sahler	'24	568-2521

Kearsarge Community
Presbyterian Church
82 King Hill Road
New London, New Hampshire 03257

CONTACTING THE CHURCH

www.kcpcnlh.com

Kearsarge Community
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82 King Hill Rd., New London, NH 03257

Church Office Phone

603-526-4800

Church Office Fax:

603-526-4822

Church email:

officem@tds.net

Staff:

Kurt Shaffert, *Interim Pastor*
Maria Barnard, *Office Manager*
Lorraine Christy, *Church Keeper*
Roberta Hollinger, *Education Director*
Jason Paquette, *Church Accompanist*
Frances Steven-Putnam, *Music Director*

Please Contact For More Info:

Hand Bell Choir, Gary Rothe, *Director*
Presbyterian Women, Roberta Hollinger
Cub Scouts, Paula Schoonmaker
Good Day Respite, Jan Sahler
Youth Programs, Roberta Hollinger
Feed the Freezer, Ruth Storey
KLS Food Pantry, Kathi Kelly
KCPC Food Bank, Doug Darling
KCPC Wood Ministry, John Foulds
WishListNH Ministry, Lorelle Foulds

Barbara Rothe ~ Clerk of Session
Helen Knox ~ Asst. Clerk of Session
John Walters ~ Financial Secretary
Sara Scheuch ~ Treasurer
Susan Bradford ~ Moderator of Deacons
Jan Sahler ~ Secretary of Deacons

PETROS PUBLICATION

Deadline for the April Issue of the newsletter is:

Sunday, March 13th

Editors:

Kurt Shaffert, Maria Barnard,
Roberta Hollinger
& Elaine Koester

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A Special Thank You Goes To:
Our "Angels" who help us prepare
the Petros newsletter for mailing
each month.

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One way to send info to us:

officem@tds.net

Or: You may submit a typewritten
copy of your article. The above may
be left in the church office mailbox.

Statement of Purpose:

The Kearsarge Community Presbyterian
Church is a community of Christians striv-
ing to do God's work on earth. We pro-
claim that the life and teaching of Jesus
Christ, through the power of the Holy
Spirit, give us direction and purpose as a
people of faith.

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